

[20 April, 2001]

RAJYA SABHA

Purchase of coconut copra in Karnataka

3809. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) the details regarding the total quantity of coconut copra purchased by NAFED and other institutions in Karnataka during 1999-2000 and 2000-2001;
- (b) whether it is a fact that even after two months of purchase the amount has not been paid to farmers, if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the amount earmarked for purchase of copra in Karnataka?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) There was no procurement of copra by NAFED in Karnataka during the year 1999-2000. During the year 2000-2001, NAFED has procured a quantity of 4565 MTs of ball copra in Karnataka.

(b) NAFED has procured ball copra valuing Rs. 16.52 crores in Karnataka against which Rs. 16.22 crores has been released by NAFED to Karnataka State Marketing Federation Ltd., the procuring agency, to make payment to the farmers.

(c) Procurement of copra will continue in Karnataka as long as the market price of copra remains less than Minimum Support Price (MSP). Therefore, there is no separate earmarking of fund for purchase of copra in Karnataka.

Challenges of globalisation for farmers

3810. SHRI RUMANOLA RAMACHANDRAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 82% farmers are without investment capacity to face the challenges of globalization; and
- (b) if so, the assistance proposed to be taken from Japan for acquiring and adopting their developed agriculture technology for value addition of produces and help capital formation and development?